STATE EMPLOYEE TRIP REDUCTION

Description

As of 2010, the State of Texas employs over 260,000 employees statewide, full-time and part-time, in varied agencies and capacities. Many work at locations with a concentration of employees at a single worksite, often in downtown or other activity centers. Trip reduction programs include a variety of different techniques, and many of these programs demonstrate measurable savings in terms of employee retention, commuting and travel costs, and facility costs. A variety of strategies would be suitable for implementation at Texas state agencies, depending upon individual employee duties:

- Encouraging alternative work schedule (AWS).
- Emergency ride home program.
- Online matching program to enable people to find other state employees with similar commutes.
- Incentive programs to encourage employee participation.

Cost:	●●○○○
Time:	Short
Impact:	Region
Who:	State Agencies
Hurdles:	Policy/Perception

Target Market

- Agencies whose employees work in locations with a concentration of state employees.
- Agencies with a direct interest in reduced traffic congestion and air pollution.
- Agencies interested in these strategies as part of a larger employee satisfaction initiative.

How Will This Help?

- Reduce peak-period trips to make employee commutes more efficient.
- Measurable impacts for relatively low cost for all involved: state agencies and employees.
- Lower auto emissions by removing cars from the road and allowing more efficient speeds.

Success Stories

- Among Texas agencies that monitor their AWS programs, 32 percent of employees reduced their commute time and 20 percent reduced their fuel expenses (Texas Comptroller, 2010).

- The Washington State Commute Trip Reduction Program worksites reduced drive-alone rate by 4.8 percent and vehicle miles by 5.6 percent between the 2007–2008 and 2009–2010 surveys.

Implementation Issues

Monitoring performance is an issue of concern to both employers and employees. Performance monitoring tools are available to address these concerns. Manager and supervisor training on implementing AWS is critical.